

DRAFT SUMMARIZED MEETING MINUTES



**City of Scottsdale
McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission
Planning Subcommittee Meeting**

4:30 – 6:00 p.m., February 17, 2010
Granite Reef Senior Center – Room #7
1700 N. Granite Reef Road
Scottsdale, Arizona 85257

PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS: Erik Filsinger, B.J. Heggli; Carla, Howard Myers; Rand Hubbell; Deke Joralmon, Dan Gruber, Laurel Arndt, Jean Anderson, Megan Mosby, Joni Millavec

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Howard Myers at 4:35p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Chairman Howard Myers, Vice-chairman Deke Joralmon, Erick Filsinger, Carla, Rand Hubbell Dan Gruber, Jean Anderson, Joni Millavec (4:35), Laurel Arndt (4:43), BJ Heggli (5:15)

Absent: Megan Mosby

Staff Present: Scott Hamilton, Claire Miller, Bill Murphy, Kroy Ekblaw, Joe Padilla, Rachel Smetana

Others Present: Todd Masden, Cave Creek Outfitters; Bruce Ledbetter, 360 Adventures, LLC; Tracey Epel, Take A Hike Arizona.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Todd Masden of Cave Creek Outfitters commented on the commercial permitting fees (agenda item #8). Chairman Myers said the role of this Planning Committee was to gather comments and take back to McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission and asked Mr. Masden to remain for the upcoming item #8 at which time they would hear public comment and answer questions.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jean Anderson moved to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of the August 20, 2009 meeting and Erik Filsinger seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0 (Members Arndt and Heggli not present for vote)

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5. CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chairman Myers noted the committee's main task is to complete the Preserve Management Plan. A few of the holes that still exist are on tonight's agenda. Beyond that, the next policy to be looked at has to do with large groups and events and what policy is needed to control the events. These Planning Committee meetings should be conducted on a regular basis going forward.

6. ELECT NEW OFFICERS FOR 2010

Erik Filsinger moved to nominate Howard Myers as Chairman and Deke Joralmon as Vice-Chairman. Rand Hubbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 10-0.

7. ETHICS TRAINING

Joe Padilla, Senior Assistant City Attorney, presented the City's Ethics training video which brings committee members into compliance for the required training for the City's Boards, Commissions and Task Forces.

8. COMMERCIAL USE PERMIT

Chairman Myers reported that the Planning Committee was asked to look at the current Commercial Use Permit Policy draft and provide comments to the Commission.

Todd Masden from Cave Creek Outfitters, Bruce Ledbetter from 360 Adventures, LLC and Tracey Epel from Take A Hike Arizona were present to comment on the draft policy. These speakers brought up concerns with the policy related to proposed fees; the impact horses make on trails; regulations regarding first aid requirements and the emergency procedures including who pays for necessary rescues. Some of the proposed first aid requirements could put a burden on small companies.

Consensus from committee members and staff was that most of the issues are not insurmountable and can be worked out pretty easily. The City's risk management and legal staff could be brought in to work through some of the concerns with insurance requirements and the different levels of risk involved.

Chairman Myers thanked the speakers and stated that the Planning Committee would be bringing their concerns to the Commission for action. The main goal is to get this policy moving and as needs change, so will the document.

Staff was commended on their hard work on this item. It was noted that this policy only applies to commercial outfits right now, not non-profits or special events.

9. POTENTIAL FOUNTAIN HILLS TRAILS CONNECTION

Bill Murphy reported that he and Kroy Ekblaw had recently met with Commission Chairman Jerry Miller and Chairman Bill Myers from the McDowell Mountain Preservation Commission of Fountain Hills. A joint work study with the Commissions is scheduled for Thursday, March 4,

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2010. The two Commissions will discuss trail connections between the two Preserves and shared conservation efforts. A brief presentation was made by staff highlighting some of the items that may be discussed.

10. NAMING POLICY

Chairman Myers reported that the Planning Committee started down this path on more of a global issue of how to recognize donors. The Commission decided to form a small committee to put together a draft policy. This Committee was asked to bring the draft policy forward to the Planning Committee to review.

Fred Klein, Carla and Scott Hamilton reviewed the naming policy draft and the justification and reasoning that went into the proposed policy. Members reported that the policy ties into Chapter 21 and is sensitive to not violating the preserve ordinance. Committee consensus seemed to be that names should be contained to one central area such as the Desert Discovery Center.

Chairman Myers stated that he felt the one change that should be made to the draft policy is that we should have the ability to recognize financial donors.

11. PRESERVE STAFF REPORT

Bill Murphy reported the City is using a new product called Granicus to record today's meeting. This product is now being used at many of the city's public meetings. Today's recording will be posted on the city's website under the Planning Committee and the written minutes will be summarized. This should result in a cost reduction with AVTronics and assist in getting minutes out.

Our next meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2010 and is a joint meeting with the McDowell Mountain Preservation Commission of Fountain Hills with the regular meeting to follow.

The Planning Committee's goal will be to get items agendaized and materials distributed in a timely manner so we can get resolution on the items at future meetings.

Scott Hamilton briefly touched on the north access area and will be bringing forward the site plan at future meeting.

12. STAFF AND COMMITTEE COMMENTS

There were no staff or committee comments.

13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a) Large Group Policy
- b) Continue Management Plan and completion

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mary Beth Hunt, Office Coordinator Manager

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